

# TALKING PAPER

ON

## SIMPLIFIED PROCESSING STATION (SPS)

PURPOSE: For use during discussions with Mr. Shannis, IEM.

BACKGROUND: In Dec 1974 IBM signed a fixed price contract to build a prototype Simplified Processing Station (SPS) with options for up to five more.

- USAF direction limited this effort to the one model
- USAF costs totaled approximately 37 million
- IBM costs for the over-run totaled approximately 14 million
- SAMSO (now Space Division) accepted the SPS from IBM after Development Test & Evaluation (DT&E) testing occurred at the test location in California
- DT&E results showed that the system required additional software/hardware efforts,
- After a system cleanup period, Initial Operational Test & Evaluation (IOT&E) was conducted, ending in June 79.
- Results of IOT&E still showed unacceptable performance
- high false report rate
- IEM/SPO devoted three months to anomaly cleanup (July to Sep 79)
- ADCOM data collection period followed (Sep 79 to Dec 79)
- Acceptable performance figures were documented
- ADCOM accepted turnover of the SPS
- FOT&E scheduled during Jan 80
- The SPS failed four categories of FOT&E
- At this point, the ADCOM plans staff directed that an improved manual intervention capability be installed in the SPS software.

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STATUS:

- The SPB performance has been excellent from the time the manual intervention software capability has been installed
- Software still presents random false data<sup>9</sup> to the operator (approximately 8 events per day average)
- The SPB operators have demonstrated the ability to recognize and delete the false data
- All real launches detected since 23 March 80 have been recognized and allowed to process through the system
- Only 4 false reports would have been transmitted by the operators
- The ADCON staff is now continuing to collect operational data to determine if an initial operational capability (IOC) has been achieved
- The remaining concern is that the SPB software is to be used as the baseline for the Mobile Ground Terminals
- The software performance is still not sufficient for use in a system with a single operator position
- IBM and the SPO must provide some assurance that the system performance will be improved to the extent necessary to satisfy the operational need
- IBM has been identified by the SPO as the selected source contractor for the MGT program

ACTION OFFICER: Lt Col Jay D. Kemp, J-5DW, 3201

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHENTICATION:

ORIGINAL SIGNED

8 DEC 1980

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DCS: Plans, Policy, Programs  
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